

## Message Text

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AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USNMR SHAPE

USLOACLANT

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 4947

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJ: PERMREPS LUNCH, SEPTEMBER 9

BEGIN SUMMARY AT THEIR REGULAR WEEKLY LUNCHEON MEETING ON SEPT 9,  
NATO PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES DISCUSSED THE FOLLOWING SUBJECT:

1. DEPARTURES OF CERTAIN NATO PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES;
2. REORGANIZATION OF THE BRITISH ARMY OF THE RHINE.
3. THE DUTCH DEFENSE REVIEW.
4. FRENCH PARTICIPATION IN NATO STANDARDIZATION EFFORTS (REPORTED SEPTEL NOTAL).
5. PORTUGUESE ACCESS TO NATO CLASSIFIED INFORMATION (REPORTED CONFIDENTIAL

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SEPTEL NOTAL).

END SUMMARY

CAUTION: THE "PERMREPS LUNCH" IS AN INFORMAL, SUB-

STANTIVE, BUT EXPLICITLY OFF-THE-RECORD MEETING OF NATO

PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES PLUS THE SYG AND DSYG. THESE LUNCHEONS TAKE PLACE EVERY TUESDAY THROUGHOUT THE YEAR (EXCEPT AUGUST) AND HAVE BECOME AN INSTITUTION AT NATO HEADQUARTERS. AN ESSENTIAL UNDERSTANDING OF THESE LUNCHEONS DISCUSSIONS IS THAT THEY ARE INFORMAL WITH PERMREPS SEPAKING PERSONALLY IN MANY CASES, CONFIDENT THAT THEIR UNINSTRUCTED COMMENTS, IF REPORTED, WILL NOT BE ATTRIBUTED BY NAME. ADDRESSEES SHOULD NOT REFER TO PERMREPS LUNCH DISCUSSIONS IN CONTACTS WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTS AND NEVER ATTRIBUTE A PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE'S COMMENTS BY NAME. END CAUTION.

1. DEPARTURES OF CERTAIN NATO PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES.

BELGIAN AMBASSADOR DE STAERCKE, DEAN OF NATO PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES, ANNOUNCED HE WOULD BE RESIGNING IN FEBRUARY 1976, AND WOULD BE SUCCEEDED BY THE PRESENT BELGIAN AMBASSADOR IN BONN. HE SAID HE HAD EXPECTED TO DO THIS IN 1973 AT THE AGE OF 60, BUT HAD BEEN INDUCED TO CONTINUE FOR ANOTHER TWO OR THREE YEARS. THERE WAS A GENERAL EXPRESSION OF DEEP REGRET. UK AMBASSADOR PECK WILL TAKE HIS OFFICIAL DEPARTURE IN EARLY OCTOBER 1975. FRG AMBASSADOR KRAPF WILL REMAIN AT NATO UNTIL THE SUMMER OF 1976, ABOUT NINE MONTHS LONGER THAN PREVIOUSLY EXPECTED.

2. REORGANIZATION OF THE BRITISH ARMY OF THE RHINE. UK CHARGE LOGAN SAID ON DECEMBER 30 HMB WOULD LAY BEFORE THE DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE A BRIEFING ON THE REORGANIZATION OF THE BRITISH ARMY OF THE RHINE.

3. THE DUTCH DEFENSE REVIEW. NETHERLANDS AMBASSADOR HARTOGH SAID IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT CONFIDENTIAL

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THE DUTCH PERLIAMENT BE INFORMED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE OF NATO VIEWS CONCERNING THE DUTCH DEFENSE REVIEW. SYG LUNS REPLIED THAT A CHANGE IN DUTCH MILITARY DISPOSITIONS RAISED SERIOUS PROBLEMS AND REQUIRED ADEQUATE CONSULTATIONS WITH THE NETHERLANDS' NATO ALLIES. DE STAERCKE COMMENTED THAT, IN VIEW OF THE RELATIVE SAFETY TO DATE OF THE BELGIAN DEFENSE BUDGET, THE PUBLICITY ON THE DUTCH REDUCTION PROPOSAL PLACES THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT IN AN EXPECIALLY UNFORTUNATE POSITION, SINCE THE DECISION HAD APPARENTLY BEEN TAKEN BY THE DUTCH WITHOUT PRIOR CONSULTATION WITH ANYONE. HARTOGH SAID THAT A GENERAL DEBATE ON THE SUBJECT IN THE DUTCH PARLIAMENT WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE BEGINNING OF OCTOBER, AND HE WOULD LIKE THE MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED IN NATO BY SEPTEMBER 17. KRAPF SUPPORTED THIS DATE. BRUCE

CONFIDENTIAL

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**TAGS:** PFOR, NATO  
**To:** STATE  
SECDEF INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS  
BELGRADE  
MOSCOW  
USNMR SHAPE  
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